

F I F T H R E P O R T

O F T H E

COMMISSIONERS appointed by an Act of Parliament,
to enquire into the Fees, Gratuities, Perquisites, and
Emoluments, which are or have been lately received in
the several PUBLIC OFFICES therein mentioned.

COMMISSIONERS OF THE NAVY.

Ordered to be printed 17th June 1793.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT
TO ENQUIRE INTO THE LOSS, DESTRUCTION, REPAIRS, AND
REPLACEMENTS OF THE VESSELS WHICH ARE OR HAVE BEEN LOSTLY RECEIVED IN
THE SERVICE OF THE ROYAL NAVY.

COMMISSIONERS OF THE NAVY.

Ordered to be printed 17th June 1793.

I
the
G
E
M
W
T
D
B
C
T
C
R
E
I
H
T
S
M
I
t

To the KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY in Council.

THE FIFTH REPORT of the Commissioners appointed by an Act of Parliament, to enquire into the Fees, Gratuities, Perquisites, and Emoluments, which are or have been lately received in the several PUBLIC OFFICES therein mentioned; to examine into any Abuses which may exist in the same; and to report such Observations as shall occur to them for the better conducting and managing the Business transacted in the said Offices.

HAVING finished our Enquiry into the Offices of the Admiralty, and Treasurer of Your Majesty's Navy, we proceed to the Office next in Order in the Naval Department, namely, that of the Commissioners of Your Majesty's Navy.

In this Office we have examined Sir Charles Middleton, Baronet, John Henflow, Esquire, George Marsh, Esquire, George Rogers, Esquire, William Palmer, Esquire, William Campbell, Esquire, Edward Le Cras, Esquire, Samuel Wallis, Esquire, Messrs. John Thomas, Thomas Mitchell, John Binmer, Francis Stephens, Thomas Davies, Richard Prestwood, George Hartwell, William Peyton, Maurice Nelson, Iner Mohringk, Thomas Soame, William Foster, George Rainier, Thomas Evans, Charles Wright, John William Nelson, John Hebden, William Hunter, Charles Donald, Hewling Luson, Jacob Hughes, William Nash, Benjamin Holl, Edward Talkingham, Benjamin Robertson, Francis Wilson, John Dicken, George Hicks, Philip Egerton Ottey, William Capell, John Smith Braine, George White, James Stow, Francis Talbot, Charles Derrick, Henry Terrey, Thomas Flint, John Cook, Charles Nye, Robert James Clayton, John David Rolt, Robert Gregson, John Margetson, John Andrews, Charles Foster, Major Wolhead, Thomas Berkenhead, Richard Alexander Nelson, William Walker, George Balston, John Bates, William Carter, William Baldwin, John Anderson, Richard Peters, John Kingdom, John Harris, Osborne Standert, Jonathan Dodd, Benjamin Stow, William Tweedy, John Morris, William Paynter, John Hunter, Philip Hyatt, Lawrence Bond, Walter Stirling, George Player, George Daysh, William Hodgson, James Masterton, Henry Hunter Williams, Samuel Inman, Robert Horn, John Druce, John Collins, Thomas Steppens, Francis Festing, Charles Wade, Thomas Herne, Henry Bennett, George Bowyer, John Piggott, Thomas Bowden, William Coleman, James Bayley, George Jackson, Rice Lloyd Davies, John Shayler, Edward Kemm, Richard Hall, George Brown, John Jackson, Samuel Furer, Samuel Nicholson, James Hayson, William Benge, William Phillips, Thomas King, William Pettit, Thomas Errington, Richard Rogers, and Isabella Barkley; from whom, and the Returns, Papers, and Accounts, transmitted to us, we obtained the following Information.

Appendix, No 1, 2,
3, 4, 5, 6,
7, 8, 9,
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,
16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21,
22, 23, 24, 25, 26,
27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32,
33, 34, 35, 36, 37,
38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43,
44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49,
50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55,
56, 57, 58, 59, 60,
61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66,
67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73,
74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79,
80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85,
86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91,
92, 93, 94, 95, 96,
97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102,
103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108,
109, 110, 111.

The Establishment of the Navy Office consisted, at the Time of our Enquiry, of Eleven Commissioners (exclusive of the Treasurer) an Assistant to the Clerk of the Acts, Two Assistants to the Surveyor, a Storekeeper of Slops, One hundred Clerks, and other inferior Officers.

The Treasurer is not included in the last Patent granted to the Navy Board, but Provision is made therein for his acting as a Member of the Board, when he thinks fit to attend; of the Eleven Commissioners Seven are resident in London; the other Four are specially appointed to reside individually at the Dock Yards of Chatham, Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Halifax in North America.

The Duty of the Navy Board is, under the Direction of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to consult and advise together how to transact to the best Advantage all Affairs tending to the Well-being and Regulation of the Civil Establishment of Your Majesty's Navy, and all the subordinate Instruments thereof, wherein they are to proceed by Common Council, and Agreement of most Voices; to make Contracts for Naval Stores of every Kind, and attend to the proper Distribution thereof; to prepare all Estimates for the Expence of the Navy; to direct all Monies for Naval Services into the Treasurer's Hands, and to examine and certify his Accounts for the Expenditure thereof.

The Seven Commissioners resident in London, who properly compose the Navy Board, are the Comptroller, the Surveyor, the Clerk of the Acts, the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts, the Comptroller of the Victualling Accounts, the Comptroller of the Storekeeper's Accounts, and One extra Commissioner.

Six of the said Commissioners have, as appears by their Titles, particular and special Duties allotted to them, besides the general Duty of Superintendence and Regulation.

The Special Duty of the Comptroller is to preside at and prepare Matter for the Discussion of the Navy Board; to conduct the general Business that comes before it; to superintend the Offices particularly committed to his Charge, namely the Office for Bills and Accounts, for Foreign Accounts, and for Payment of Seamen's Wages; to controul the Payment of Half Pay at the Pay Office, the Payment of Artificers and Labourers at Deptford and Woolwich Yards, and of the Ships paid off at these Ports; to visit the said Yards Weekly, and the more distant Yards when Occasion requires; to attend the Admiralty, Treasury, and the great Officers of State when required; and generally to superintend the Business of the Navy Office in all its Branches.

The Comptroller's Duty originally extended to the Examination and Controul of the Treasurer's Accounts, both Naval and Victualling, the Storekeeper's Accounts, the Ticket Office, and the Payment of all Wages; but the Business having accumulated to a great Degree by the Increase of the Navy, several Commissioners have from Time to Time been added, to whom and others the particular Care of the said Branches has been committed.

The Attendance of the Comptroller is constant and unremitting: He has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; he has an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; and also an Allowance of One hundred Fourteen Pounds a Year for Travelling Charges, &c. on visiting the Dock Yards at Deptford and Woolwich; likewise an Allowance at present of Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; he has Coals and Candles for his own Use, not to exceed in Amount Ninety Pounds a Year; besides which, he has been permitted to retain his Half Pay as a Captain in the Navy, amounting Annually to One hundred Eighty Pounds; and he receives certain Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department, which he estimates to amount on an Average to about Three hundred Guineas Annually.

£. 950. 10.

The Total Amount of his certain Annual Income, including the Allowance for visiting the Yards, is Nine hundred Fifty Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, his Half Pay, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks.

The Special Duty of the Surveyor is to survey, or examine the Reports of all Surveys taken of the Hulls, Masts, and Yards of Your Majesty's Ships at the several Ports; to consider of the Propriety of repairing, felling, or breaking up the same; to examine and consider of the Annual Estimates for the Repairs thereof; to consider of the proper Ships and Works of the Yards, which it may be for the Good of the Service to give the Preference to; to direct the Preparation of Drawings for all the Ships and Vessels ordered to be built for Your Majesty's Service; to determine their Dimensions, Scantlings of the Frames, Timbers, Beams, &c. also of the Masts and Yards; to call for and examine the Returns of the State of Timber, Hemp, Canvas, Iron, and all other Naval Stores, and to consider of the Quantities necessary to contract for in order to carry on the Current Services, and to keep up a necessary Stock; to attend that the Masts, Yards, Boats, Sails, Anchors, Cables, and other Furniture and Stores, are provided and in Readiness at the several Yards for the Ships, in good Condition, and that the proper Officers keep Pace in providing the said Articles for such Ships as are building or repairing, that they may be in Readiness whenever the respective Ships shall be ordered to be fitted for Sea; to visit the several Yards as Occasion may require, and those of Deptford and Woolwich Weekly; to inspect the building of Your Majesty's Ships in Merchants Yards, as often as he thinks fit; to examine all Demands for Stores from the several Yards, and the Propriety of all Disbursements by the Commanders of Your Majesty's Ships and Vessels, for Boatswains and Carpenters Stores purchased at any Foreign or Out Port, and for Workmanship done to the Ship or Vessel; to attend the Sale of old Ships and Stores, that the same be made to the most Advantage; to examine the Plans of all Buildings proposed to be erected in any of the Dock Yards; to settle the Manner in which the Works of all new Docks, Wharfs, Building Slips, and other Buildings, are to be carried on, as well as the Rate and Mode of Payment of such Works when done by Contract, and to cheque the Prices of Work done by Estimate; to consider of all Propositions made to the Board by the Officers of the Yards for such Things as are in his Line of Duty; to make Minutes for grounding Answers thereto; and generally to consider, in common with the other Members of the Board, of all Things necessary for conducting the Business of the Navy within their Cognizance.

In the Execution of his professional Duty he has the Aid of Two Assistants, specially appointed for that Purpose.

His Attendance is Daily: He has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year, for what is called the Army Victualling Business; also an Allowance of Thirty-five Shillings each Day he visits the Yards on the River, amounting to about Ninety Pounds a Year, as Travelling Charges, &c.; likewise Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; and Coals and Candles for his Use, not to exceed in the

Amount

Amount Ninety Pounds a Year, and he receives Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department.

The Total Amount of his certain Annual Income, including the Allowance for visiting the Yards, is Nine hundred Twenty-Six Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks. £. 926. 10.

The Special Duty of the Clerk of the Acts is to receive, arrange, register, and keep safe all Orders and Letters from the Admiralty, Treasury, and from the various Correspondents of the Navy Board; to prepare Answers thereto, according to the Minutes of the Board; to keep a Register of all the Proceedings of the Board, whether by Correspondence or Conference; to forward Directions pursuant to Orders from the Admiralty or Navy Board, to the Officers of the different Dock Yards, and other Officers, for the Equipment, victualling and storing of the Ships and Fleets, and for the Entry of Warrant Officers; to frame, from the Board's Minutes of Agreement, all Contracts for Ships Stores, and Charter Parties; to enter them, and forward Copies thereof, signed by him, to the Officers of the Yards, or such other Persons as are to see to the Execution of the same, or in any Manner concerned therein; to transmit Warrants signed by him, and Two other Members of the Board, to the Officers of the Yards or others, for carrying them into Execution; to keep a Register of all Bills drawn upon the Board, and to accept the same, if within the Authority of the Board, if not to apply to the Admiralty for their Orders thereon; to make out Imprest Bills for all Payments on Account; to examine the Vouchers for, and make out Bounty Bills to, Widows and Orphans of those Men slain in Fight; to keep an Entry of all Bills issued from the Comptroller's Office, and a Register of their final Delivery, when assigned on the Treasurer for Payment; to make out Warrants for all Officers in the Appointment of the Navy Board; to keep an Entry of the Certificates of such Gentlemen as pass for Lieutenants of the Navy; to grant Certificates to the Captains of Ships of War, Lieutenants and Masters, to enable them to receive their Wages; to receive, arrange, and deposit the Journals and Log Books delivered in by the several Officers; to examine and check the Accounts of Purveyors employed to survey Timber, or purchase small Stores not on Contract, but under the Denomination of petty Emptions; to make himself acquainted with the Market Price of all Kinds of Goods and Stores, previous to their being purchased or contracted for; to keep an Account of all Monies received by the Treasurer, in consequence of the Board's Directions to him to apply for the same; to make out, and transmit to the proper Officer, Bills for Payment of such Sums as are remitted by Seamen from Abroad, or at the Payment of the Ships at Home, and a Duplicate thereof to the Party who is to receive the Money; and when both are returned to the Navy Board, to draw an Assignment on the Treasurer for Re-payment, to the Officer to whom the original Bill was directed for Payment; to make out Requisitions on Contractors for such Stores as are wanted at the several Yards; to take Security for the due Execution of all Places of Trust, either of Money or Stores; and generally to consult with the other Members of the Board, and attend to the Dispatch of all Business which comes before it. In every Part of this Duty, excepting what relates to his general Duty as a Member of the Board, he is assisted by the Officer specially appointed as the Assistant to the Clerk of the Acts.

His Attendance is in general Daily, always when the Board meets: He has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Deductions to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; and Coals and Candles for his Use, not to exceed in Amount Ninety Pounds a Year; he also receives Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department.

The Total of his certain Annual Income, is Eight hundred Thirty-six Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks. £. 836. 10.

The Special Duty of the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts is, to keep a Check upon and examine the Treasurer's Accounts for Naval and Sick and Hurt Services; to keep an Account of all Monies received by the Treasurer for such Services, either from the Exchequer or from Individuals, whereby to check the Debtor Side of his Account; and in like Manner to keep an Account of all Bills assigned upon him for Payment, and of all King's Warrants, as a Check on the Credit Side of his Account; to examine the Accounts sent by the Treasurer, on the 15th and last Day of every Month, of his Receipts and Payments during these Periods; and to state Monthly an Account Current between the Treasurer and the Navy Board, shewing the Balance remaining in his Hands on each Head of Service; to prepare Copies of the said Account for the Treasury and Admiralty; to prepare the Annual Estimates for Parliament for the Ordinary of the Navy, and an Annual Account of the Debt of the Navy; to examine the Treasurer's Vouchers for all Payments made for Naval Services, and when found correct to sign the Sections of his Navy Ledgers in Testimony of such Examination; to keep an Account against every Sub-Accountant who receives Money by Way of Imprest, and upon Account for Naval Services, and, when properly accounted for, to give Credit accordingly in Whole or in Part; to make out and transmit to the Treasurer, for his Guidance, a Daily List of all Bills for Naval Services assigned upon him for Payment; to prepare the Assignment upon all such Bills, to register the same, and deduct the Amount thereof from his Balance, so as to be able at all Times to give the Navy Board Knowledge of the Balance in the Treasurer's Hands, and the probable Demands thereon for their Government in directing Money into his Hands: It is also a Part of his Duty to superintend the Ticket Office, the Business of which Office is to cast the Wages of Officers and Shipkeepers borne on Board Your Majesty's Ships in Ordinary, in order to prepare

the Annual Ordinary Estimates for Parliament; to estimate the Amount of the Money remaining due on Ships Books, which makes Part of the Debt of the Navy; to prepare Annually an Account of the Number of Seamen and Marines borne and mustered in the Service, upon a Medium of each Month; to bring to Account Monthly, in Conjunction with the Treasurer's and Comptroller's Offices, the Amount of all Payments to Ships and Yards; to assist in making up Ships and Yard Books, and to adjust the various Payments made by List and Assigned Tickets; to adjust and transcribe the Lists transmitted Twice a Year from the Admiralty for paying Officers entitled to Half Pay; to adjust Ships Books for Payment, by examining them with the Muster Books and Slop Books; to set off Payments made by Advance on Annual Lists, or List of Officers and Assigned Tickets; to trace such Men as appear to come from or go into different Ships, in order to prevent double Payments; to enter Commission and Warrant Officers on the Annual List, and List of Officers, to enable them to receive their Wages before the Pay of the Ship; to enter Officers and Seamen on a List of Arrears when the Pay Books are made up and closed; to make out Bond Tickets when the Originals are lost; to examine the Certificates of Pilotage given by the Commanders of Your Majesty's Ships and Vessels, and to enter the same; to make out Tickets and Lists for unserviceable Men, and to assign those and dead Men's Tickets for Payment; to make out Certificates of the Time of Service in the Navy of Officers, Seamen, and Marines, when necessary; to examine the Muster Books and Slop Books transmitted by the Commanders of Your Majesty's Ships and Vessels, and to certify to the Navy Board how far they have complied with their Instructions, in order to the passing of their Accounts; to examine and check Purfers Victualling Books by the Muster Books, towards passing their Accounts at the Victualling Office; to examine and adjust Purfers Slop, Bed, and Tobacco Lists by the Slop Books; to examine Marine Effective and Embarkation Lists by the Muster Rolls, and Ships Books; and to report to the Board on all References respecting Wages. It is now likewise a Part of his Duty, jointly with the Comptroller of the Store Keeper's Accounts, to superintend the Slop Office, and attend that all Contracts for Slops be properly complied with, and that all Orders given by the Navy Board be duly executed, and, jointly with his Colleague, to controul and state the Accounts of the Store Keeper and Accountant of the said Office, and to certify the same previous to their being laid before the Board; and generally to consult and advise with the other Members of the Board how best to transact all Matters relative to the Navy committed to their Care and Management.

His Attendance is in general Daily; he has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; he has an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; also an Allowance at present of Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; and Coals and Candles for his Use, not to exceed in Amount Ninety Pounds a Year; and considers himself as entitled to Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department, and in the Ticket Office; also a Moiety thereof in the Slop Office.

£. 836. 10.

The Total Amount of his certain Annual Income is Eight hundred Thirty-six Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks.

The Special Duty of the Comptroller of the Victualling Accounts is, to keep a Check on the Treasurer's Victualling Accounts; to receive Monthly, from the Commissioners for victualling Your Majesty's Navy, a List of all Bills made out at their Office for Victualling Services; to enter the same, and also to write off such as are assigned for Payment within the Month, by a List received Monthly from the Victualling Office; to receive and enter the Cashier of the Victualling's List of Receipts and Payments, which he transmits every Fortnight; to receive Monthly from the Commissioners of the Victualling a List of all Money received by, and of Bills assigned on the Treasurer, and from the Treasurer a List of all Payments made to him by Individuals, and to examine the same by the Cashier's List of Receipts and Payments; to examine the Treasurer's Vouchers for all Payments on Account of the Victualling, to compare the same with the List of Bills assigned, and the Cashier's List of Payments, and when found correct to assign the Sections of his Victualling Ledger in Testimony of such Examination; to attend the Payment of Ships and Recalls in his Turn at the Pay Office in London, and the Payment of Deptford and Woolwich Yards; and generally to consult with the other Members of the Board how best to transact the Business committed to their Charge.

His Attendance is in general Daily; he has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; Coals and Candles for his Use, not to exceed in Amount Ninety Pounds a Year; an Allowance of Thirteen Shillings and Six Pence per Day for each Day's Attendance on Payments at the Pay Office; and Forty Shillings a Day when attending the Payment of the Yards or Ships at Deptford and Woolwich; and Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department.

£. 836. 10.

The Total Amount of his certain Annual Income is Eight hundred Thirty-six Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, the occasional Allowance for attending Payments, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks.

The Special Duty of the Comptroller of the Store Keepers Accounts is, to attend that the several Store Keepers, and other Officers of Your Majesty's Dock Yards, keep the Accounts of the Receipt and Issue of Stores, according to the Order and Method directed by

by their Instructions, and that they duly transmit the same, and the Abstract thereof, to his Office; to compare the Abstracts of the respective Store Keepers with the Books signed by the several Officers of the Receipt and Issue of Stores, and to cause any Mistake that shall be found therein to be rectified; to cause the Abstracts of the Receipts and Issues to be entered in a Ledger, by Way of Debtor and Creditor, under each Species of Stores, and in each Yard distinct, in order at all Times to give Information how the Store Houses are furnished with each Species; to compare with the Books of Receipts and Issues the Books which are sent from the Store Keepers of the Stores issued for each Ship and Service, and cause to be entered in a Book for that Purpose, under the Head of each Ship and Service, the Quantity and Quality of each Sort of Materials expended on the same, and the Price, that the Charge of Materials for each Ship or Service may distinctly appear; to compare the Charge of each Work, when finished, with the Estimate made for the same; at the Time of taking the Yearly Survey of the Stores, to state and pass each Store Keeper's Account for the preceding Year, bring the same to a Balance to the Time of taking such Survey, and to compare the said Balance with the Stores found remaining at the Survey; to present to the Navy Board the State of each Store Keeper's Accounts so balanced, with the Difference between the said Balance and the Stores found at the Survey; to controul the Accounts of the Clerk of the Cheque, of the Rope Yards, and of all other Persons entrusted with Stores in any Part of Your Majesty's Dominions; and Once a Year, or oftener, in case of the Death or Removal of the Store Keepers, or Determination of the Service, to state their Accounts, and present the same to the Navy Board; it is now likewise a Part of his Duty, jointly with the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts, to superintend the Slop Office, and inspect into all Matters relative to the providing of Slop Cloaths for the Use of the Seamen belonging to Your Majesty's Ships; to see that all Contracts for them be properly complied with, and that all Orders given by the Navy Board relative to them be duly executed; and to state and controul the Accounts of the Store Keepers and Accountant of the said Slops; to attend in his Turn the Payment of Ships and Recalls at the Pay Office in London, and the Payment of Deptford and Woolwich Yards; and generally to consult and advise with his Fellow Officers how to transact all Affairs committed to the Charge and Management of the Navy Board, to the best Advancement of Your Majesty's Service.

His Attendance is in general Daily: He has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by Shilling and Civil List Duties to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; also an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; an Allowance of Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; and Coals and Candles for his Use, not to exceed in Amount Ninety Pounds a Year; an Allowance of Thirteen Shillings and Six Pence per Day for each Day's Attendance on Payments at the Pay Office; and Forty Shillings a Day when attending the Payment of Deptford and Woolwich Yards, or Ships there; Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department, and a Moiety of those in the Slop Office.

The Total Amount of his certain Annual Income is Eight hundred Thirty-six Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, the occasional Allowance for attending Payments, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks. £. 836. 10.

The Extra Commissioner has no particular Branch allotted him, but his Special Duty appears to be to examine the Journals of Captains and Lieutenants, and their general Certificates, Masters Log Books and Journals, and report to the Board any Omission or Neglect therein; to examine the Cases of Run Men, the Clerk of the Cheque's Weekly Musters of the Ships and Vessels at the different Ports, and the Returns of Masters, Surgeons and Surgeon's Mates, belonging to the said Ships; the Monthly Returns of Officers absent with or without Leave, the Returns of the Superintending Masters of the Ships in Ordinary, and their Reports of the Conduct of the Warrant Officers; to examine the Account of Cordage received and issued at the different Yards, and to attend that a proper Proportion is kept ready for Service at the Yards; to attend the Examination of Midshipmen, touching their Qualifications to serve as Lieutenants, and in his Turn the Payment of Wages at the Pay Office, London, and of the Ships and Yards at Deptford and Woolwich; and generally to consult with the other Members of the Board how best to transact the Business committed to their Charge.

His Attendance is Daily: He has a Salary of Five hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Deductions to Four hundred Sixty-two Pounds Ten Shillings; an Allowance of Three hundred Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; an Allowance of Eighty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Seventy-four Pounds; and Coals and Candles for his Use, not to exceed in Amount Ninety Pounds a Year; also an Allowance of Thirteen Shillings and Six Pence a Day for each Day's Attendance on Payments at the Pay Office, and Forty Shillings a Day when attending the Payment of Deptford and Woolwich Yards, or Ships there; and certain Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks in his Department.

The Total Amount of his certain Annual Income is Eight hundred Thirty-six Pounds Ten Shillings, exclusive of the Benefit of Coals and Candles, the occasional Allowance for attending Payments, and the Gratuities on the Appointment of Clerks. £. 836. 10.

The Duty, Attendance, Salary, and Emoluments of the Commissioners resident at the Dock Yards shall be stated, when we report upon the several Yards to which they respectively belong.

The Duty of the Two Assistants to the Surveyor of the Navy, is to examine and correct all Contracts for building and repairing Ships and Vessels in the Merchants Yards; to superintend the Work while

while the Ships are building, and report occasionally to the Surveyor and Navy Board thereon; to certify when the several Payments to the Contractors become due; to superintend the making of Masts, Yards, and the building of Boats at the said Yards, which are divided into Two Districts, that under the First Assistant comprizing Part of the River Thames extending from Rotherhithe Church to Deptford Green, and the several Yards at Liverpool, Bristol, Northam, Bursledon, Bucklersheare, and East Cowes; that under the Second Assistant comprizing that Part of the River Thames from Limehouse to Blackwall, and the several Yards at Itchenor, Shoreham, Sandgate, Dover, Sandwich, Frimbury, Gravesend, Mistle Thorn, and Harwich: They are also to examine the Weekly Progress of the Work upon Ships building, repairing, and laid up in Ordinary at the several Dock Yards, and to abstract the Whole into a Weekly Account, which is transmitted from the Navy Board to the Admiralty, and a Monthly Account of the same to be laid before Your Majesty; they are likewise to examine and report upon the Quarterly Specifications of Stores from all the Dock Yards, and on the Quarterly Returns for all Glaziers and Painters Work; to form Estimates, Calculations, and Comparisons in the Shipwright Line, from the Accounts sent from the several Yards for the Guidance of the Board relative to the State of Stores at each Yard; to examine and report to the Surveyor how far the Prices demanded on all Extra Bills, and Work not done upon Contract, are reasonable, and likewise how far the Proposals for Work to be done in the Yards by Job are proper; to keep an Account of the Earnings on each Article of Work done by Task or Job in building or repairing of Ships at the Dock Yards, according to a general Scheme established for that Purpose; to draw out and cast all Schemes and Calculations for Stores, Estimates, Proportions, &c. that are at any Time directed by the Surveyor or the Board; to keep a Book of the State of the Moorings, as sent from the several Dock Yards; and to keep a Schedule of the Plans, Drawings of Buildings, &c. at the several Yards.

£. 323. 15.

The Attendance of the First Assistant is Daily when in London: He has a Salary of Three hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Two hundred Seventy-seven Pounds Ten Shillings; also an Allowance of Fifty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Forty-six Pounds Five Shillings, making together Three hundred Twenty-three Pounds Fifteen Shillings: He has an Allowance of Fifteen Shillings a Day for Travelling Expences, when visiting the Yards in his District, and the Amount of the Chaise Hire actually paid by him; and he occasionally receives Presents of a few Dozens of Liquor from the Builders in the Merchants Yards.

£. 212. 15.

The Attendance of the Second Assistant is Daily: He has a Salary of Two hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to One hundred Eighty-five Pounds; also an Allowance of Thirty Pounds a Year for House Rent, reduced by Deductions to Twenty-seven Pounds Fifteen Shillings, making together Two hundred Twelve Pounds Fifteen Shillings; he has also an Allowance of Ten Shillings a Day for Travelling Charges when visiting the Yards in his District, and the Expence actually paid by him for Chaise Hire; and he occasionally receives Presents of a few Dozens of Wine from Builders in Merchants Yards.

The Duty of the Assistant to the Clerk of the Acts is the same as that of Secretary in any other Office, there being no Person of such Description in this, to receive and read all Letters to the Board, and minute their Resolutions thereon, as well as all Business done by Attendance or Conference; to refer and receive back from the Offices to which they relate the Reports on Subjects which cannot be immediately determined, and to take the final Resolution of the Board thereon; to sign all Letters to Contractors, on Demands made from the Officers of the Yards for sending in Stores, and all such other Letters as are not necessary to be signed by the Board; to attest Copies of Orders and Minutes to such Officers as they relate to; and to accept all such Bills of Exchange as are ordered by the Navy Board for Acceptance; and generally to assist the Clerk of the Acts in every Part of his Official Duty.

£. 1,126. 16.

His Attendance is constant and unremitting: He has a Salary of Three hundred a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Two hundred Seventy-seven Pounds Ten Shillings; an Allowance of One hundred Fifty Pounds a Year for what is called the Army Victualling Business; an Allowance of Fifty Pounds a Year for House Rent, and of Fifty Pounds more for Coals and Candles; he has likewise a Moiety of the Fees, Gratuities, and Perquisites received by the Chief Clerk in his Department, which in the Year 1784 amounted to Five hundred Ninety-nine Pounds Six Shillings, making the Whole of his Net Receipt in that Year, One thousand One hundred Twenty-six Pounds Sixteen Shillings.

The Duty of the Store Keeper and Accomptant of the Slop Office is, to inspect the Slops received from the Contractor, and on Approval thereof to grant the Certificates for the same; to examine all Store Keepers and Purfers Accounts of Slops received, and to grant Certificates of the Settlement of such Accounts; to correspond with the Contractors, Store Keepers, and Purfers relative thereto; to keep an Account of all Money received by him by Way of Imprest for paying the Poundage to Purfers on issuing of Slops and other Contingencies of the Office; and to make up a Quarterly Account of his Receipts and Payments, and deliver the same with the Vouchers into the Comptroller's Office; and generally to superintend every Transaction and Occurrence in this Department.

His Attendance is in general Daily: He has a Salary of Two hundred Pounds a Year Net, an Allowance of Fifty Pounds a Year for House Rent, with Eight Chaldron of Coals, and Ten Dozen Pounds of Candles.

It has already been stated, that the Offices immediately under the Inspection and Charge of the Comptroller of the Navy, are those for Bills and Accounts and Foreign Accounts, and for Seamen's Wages;

Wages; the Business of his Office for Bills and Accounts is to make Abstracts of the Contracts made with the Board that the Bills for all Stores supplied and Services performed, pursuant thereto, may be properly checked and examined before such Bills are allowed and passed by the Board; to examine all Bills made out at the Yards, and see that they are agreeable to the Terms of the Contracts and Warrants relating thereto; and that no wrong Computations are made in any Article; to examine and state the Accounts of all Admirals, Commanders, and other Officers, for their Disbursements on Your Majesty's Service at Home and Abroad, and to make such Observations thereon as may render the same as clear as possible to the Board for their Audit and Determination; to examine and state the Accounts of the Clerks of the Cheque and Naval Officers of all the Yards, both at Home and Abroad, in order to ascertain whether they are conformable to the Rules and Establishments prescribed, and when found right to take the Board's Directions for the Allowance thereof; to examine and state all Accounts of Disbursements for raising Men for Your Majesty's Service, and to report to the Board whether they are conformable to the Instructions the Officers received from the Lords of the Admiralty; to state to the Board the Nature of all Claims payable by Bill for Freight of Transports, Tenders, Armed Vessels, and other Craft employed in Your Majesty's Service; to examine and state the Accounts of Disbursements made by the Agents for Transports, check and examine the contingent Accounts of the Solicitor to the Admiralty and Navy, the contingent Accounts of the Admiralty Office, Treasurer of the Navy's Office, and Navy Office, and the Bills of the several Tradesmen for Articles supplied and Repairs done; to make out Bills for the Pay of Flag Officers and their Secretaries, for Rewards to Persons acting as Judges Advocate, and Provosts Martial, Schoolmasters for teaching Navigation, to Pilots for piloting Your Majesty's Ships, and for the Wages of such Officers whose Circumstances will not permit their being paid on the Ship's Books; to examine the Claims made under several Acts of Parliament for Premiums for the Importation of Naval Stores; to examine and state to the Solicitor of the Admiralty for his Opinion the Claims for Bounty for taking or destroying the Enemies Ships of War or Privateers; to examine the Claims for Subsistence and Passage of shipwrecked and distressed British Seamen; to make out Bills for all the above Services (the Yard Bills excepted) register the same, post them against the Contracts they relate to, and make Entries of them at large in the Books of the Office, so that the Amount of the Course of the Navy may be always known, and Recourse had to the Contents of any particular Bill when required; to keep proper Books, and take Care of all Vouchers, that Recourse may be had to any past Transaction, for which the Public Money has been ordered to be paid by the Board; to prepare Orders for the Payment of all Bills of Exchange accepted by the Board; examine the Accounts of all Slops, Beds, and Surgeons Necessaries furnished for Your Majesty's Service; to examine the Accounts of Stationary Ware supplied for the Use of the Admiralty Office, Treasurer of the Navy's Office, and Navy Office, and to make out Bills for the same; to make out Bills Quarterly for the Salaries of the Lords of the Admiralty, Treasurer and Commissioners of the Navy, the Clerks and Instruments employed in their Offices, and for the Salaries of all the Officers and Clerks in the Service of the Navy in Foreign Parts; and to make out Bills Half Yearly for all Naval Pensions, and for such incidental Charges, Rewards, and Gratuities as occasionally occur in the Course of the Public Service; to prepare Lists of all Bills payable in Course for the Use of the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts; to compute and set off thereon such Interest as may become due on Navy Bills, and also to set off such Interest on the Bills themselves; to examine, state, and pass the Cash Accounts of the Paymaster of the Marines; to attend upon the stating and passing all Accounts and Bills, that the proper Abatements for Imprests, Mulets, &c. which relate thereto, be duly made thereon, so that no more than the real Balance due may be paid; to keep Accounts of the Payments of Monthly Wages, allowed to the Artificers and others serving in the Yards Abroad, and to draw out Warrants for the Payment thereof; to examine and register the Payments of Your Majesty's Bounty made by the several Clerks of the Cheque and Naval Officers to Volunteer Seamen, and to examine and enter the Claims of such as had not the Opportunity of receiving the Bounty while in the Service; to extract from the Accounts of the Naval Store-keepers Abroad the particular Sums advanced to the Surgeons of Your Majesty's Ships to enable them to purchase Necessaries for sick and hurt Seamen, in order that the same may be charged against the Surgeons Wages until properly accounted for; to make out Accounts of all Expences payable by Bill, and remaining unsatisfied on the 30th of September and 31st of December Annually, that the same may be added to the general Debt of the Navy at those Periods; to collect the Accounts of all extraordinary Charges paid with Naval Money, in order to account for the Annual Expences exceeding the Grants of Parliament; to furnish the Assessors of the Land Tax with the List of all Persons belonging to the Navy Office who receive Salaries, and also of all those who receive Pensions on the Ordinary Estimate of the Navy, with the Annual Amount payable to each Person; and likewise to prepare and transmit to the Treasurer of the Navy Quarterly Lists of such Salaries as are liable to the Civil List Duty, and Half Yearly of all Pensions which are liable to the same, and to send Duplicates of such Lists to the Receiver of the said Duty.

The aforementioned Duty is executed (under the Inspection of the Comptroller) by a Chief, and Seventeen other Clerks.

The particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix:

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, Gratuities, and Net Annual Receipt of each of the said Clerks, in the Year 1784, was as follows:

5.

C

COMPTROLLER'S

Appendix, No 13,
14, 15, 16, 17, 18,
19, 20, 21, 22, 23,
24, 25, 26, 27, 28,
29, 30.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE for Bills and Accounts.

Stations.	Salaries.	Allowance.	Fees and Gratuities.	Total.	Deductions.	Net Receipt.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Chief Clerk	100 — —	140 — —	1,737 — 6	1,977 — 6	10 10 —	1,966 10 6
2d Clerk	110 — —	60 16 —	601 4 6	772 — 6	7 10 —	764 10 6
3d Clerk	80 — —	20 — —	68 15 —	168 15 —	2 10 —	166 5 —
4th Clerk	60 — —	20 10 —	166 9 —	246 19 —	1 10 —	245 9 —
5th Clerk	60 — —	10 10 —	68 15 6	139 5 6	1 10 —	137 15 6
6th Clerk	50 — —	13 10 —	138 17 —	202 7 —	—	202 7 —
7th Clerk	50 — —	—	—	50 — —	—	50 — —
8th Clerk	50 — —	20 10 —	83 7 —	153 17 —	—	153 17 —
9th Clerk	50 — —	—	17 —	50 17 —	—	50 17 —
10th Clerk	50 — —	—	19 2 —	69 2 —	—	69 2 —
11th Clerk	50 — —	3 10 —	12 18 —	66 8 —	—	66 8 —
12th Clerk	50 — —	3 10 —	5 5 —	58 15 —	—	58 15 —
13th Clerk	50 — —	—	2 6 —	50 2 6	—	50 2 6
14th Clerk	50 — —	3 10 —	—	53 10 —	—	53 10 —
15th Clerk	50 — —	3 10 —	—	53 10 —	—	53 10 —
1st Extra D ^o	50 — —	—	—	50 — —	—	50 — —
2d Extra D ^o	50 — —	3 10 —	—	53 10 —	—	53 10 —
Temporary D ^o	52 10 —	3 10 —	—	55 12 6	—	55 12 6

The Business of the Comptroller's Office for Seamen's Wages, is to make out Estimates Quarterly of the Amount of the Wages due to Officers and Men belonging to Ships and Vessels in Sea Pay, in order to ascertain the Debt due thereon; to attend the Payments of all Your Majesty's Ships, Dock Yards, and all Payments for any other Service made in that Part of the Treasurer's Office which is under the Management of his Paymaster, by Way of Check upon the Treasurer; to keep a Check upon the Paymaster in all his Receipts and Payments, which are posted in Ledgers, adjusted Monthly, and the Balance struck; to assist in making up Ship and Yard Books, Half Pay Lists, &c. after the Recalls are finished, and to adjust the Sums to be allowed thereon in order to the Treasurer's passing his Accounts; to keep a Check Ledger, wherein all the Treasurer's Payments, after the several Books are made up and classed, are posted, which Payments are brought to an Abstract at the End of every Year; to examine and check the Allowances to be made the Treasurer upon the Ships and Yard Books, and his Receipts for Defalcations previous to his Accounts passing the Navy Board; to examine and certify the State of the Accounts of the Commanders of Your Majesty's Ships, that they have conformed in all Things to the Instructions given them by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, respecting their not bearing more Men upon their Books than their established Complement, and that none have been borne irregularly; to adjust the proper Number of Officers and Servants allowed to each Ship; to post into Ledgers kept for that Purpose the Account of the Seamen sent sick on Shore from the several Ships to the Hospitals, &c. in order to check the several Purfers of the Number of Men that appear to have been sick at the Time of Sea Victualling; to make out an Account of all Charges for Cloaths and Sick Quarters charged against the Men upon the Pay Books, that the same may be abated from their Wages; to examine the Purfers' Accounts of Men sent sick on Shore, by the Returns from the Hospitals posted in the Ledgers above mentioned, and to cast the Number of Men that appear to be sick during the Time of Sea Victualling, which Number is afterwards certified on the Victualling Books, in order to check the Purfers for the same at the Victualling Office; to make up Quarterly an Account of Defalcations due upon Ships Books, as the said Ships are paid, in order to ascertain the Debt thereon; to keep fundry Lists for Payment of Claims in London, such as Officers Annual Pay, Officers and Servants discharged from their several Ships, Half Pay Lists, Lists of Arrear, Claims, Defalcation Lists, &c.; to make out Extracts from the several Pay Books for the Payment of Seamen's Wages, and afterwards to set off the same upon the said Books, as well as all Lists of prompt Payments made before the Ships are paid; to keep an Entry of all the several Clerks of the Cheque's Musters, in order to form the Estimate of Wages due to the several Ships with greater Exactness; to keep an Entry of all Admiralty Orders and Navy Board Minutes, as far as relate to the Business of this Office; to keep an Entry of the Payment of the several Ships from Time to Time, and to post the same Annually in Ledgers, in order to check the Treasurer's Accounts; to keep a Hurt Book, containing all the Names of the Pensioners at the Chest at Chatham, with a Description of their Hurts, in order to identify their Persons when they apply at this Office for Certificates of their being alive, to enable them to receive the Pension Money due at the general Payment of the Chest, and

to keep Pay Books, containing the Payment of all such Pensioners, &c.; and to keep a Check upon the Paymaster to the Treasurer of the Navy, of all Abatements that are made upon the several Ship and Yard Books for the Use of the said Chest.

The aforementioned Duty is executed (under the Inspection of the Comptroller) by a Chief and Fourteen other Clerks; the particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix. Appendix, N^o 31,
32, 33, 34, 35, 36,
37, 38, 39, 40, 41,
42.

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, and Net Annual Receipt of each of the said Clerks in the Year 1784 were as follows:

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE for Seamen's Wages.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk	200	—	—	109	4	—	101	16	—	411	—	—	15	—	—	396	—	—
2d Clerk	50	—	—	109	4	—	192	6	—	351	10	—	—	—	—	351	10	—
3d Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—
4th Clerk	50	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	80	—	—	—	—	—	80	—	—
5th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	65	—	—	—	—	—	65	—	—
6th Clerk	50	—	—	127	15	—	—	—	—	177	15	—	—	—	—	177	15	—
7th Clerk	50	—	—	109	4	—	—	—	—	159	4	—	—	—	—	159	4	—
8th Clerk	50	—	—	109	4	—	—	—	—	159	4	—	—	—	—	159	4	—
9th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—
10th Clerk	50	—	—	114	1	—	2	—	—	166	1	—	—	—	—	166	1	—
11th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—
12th Clerk	50	—	—	27	13	—	5	5	—	82	18	—	—	—	—	82	18	—
13th Clerk	50	—	—	16	2	—	5	5	—	71	7	—	—	—	—	71	7	—
14th Clerk	50	—	—	5	19	—	5	5	—	61	4	—	—	—	—	61	4	—
15th Clerk	50	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	51	—	—	—	—	—	51	—	—

The Business of the Surveyor's Office, as described in the Special Duty of that Officer, is executed by a Chief and Seven other Clerks.

The particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix.

Appendix, N^o 43,
44, 45, 46, 47, 48,
49.

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each of the said Clerks, and their Net Receipt in the Year 1784, were as follows:

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE.

Stations and Salaries.	Allowances.	Fees and Gratuities.	Total.	Deductions.	Net Receipt.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Chief Clerk - - 100 — —	10 — —	573 11 8	683 11 8	2 10 —	681 1 8
2d Clerk - - 70 — —	—	301 19 6	371 19 6	1 15 —	370 4 6
3d Clerk - - 60 — —	—	77 — —	137 — —	1 10 —	135 10 —
4th Clerk - - 50 — —	—	—	50 — —	—	50 — —
5th Clerk - - 50 — —	—	28 15 6	78 15 6	—	78 15 6
6th Clerk - - 50 — —	—	22 1 —	72 1 —	—	72 1 —
7th Clerk - - 50 — —	—	9 1 6	59 1 6	—	59 1 6
8th Clerk - - 50 — —	—	—	50 — —	—	50 — —

The Business of the Office of Clerk of the Acts, as described in the Special Duty of that Officer, is executed by a Chief and Fifteen other Clerks; the particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix.

Appendix, N^o 50,
51, 52, 53, 54, 55,
56, 57, 58, 59, 60,
61, 62, 63, 64, 65.

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, and Net Receipt of each of the said Clerks in the Year 1784, were as follows:

CLERK of the ACTS' OFFICE.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipts.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk - -	100	—	—	80	—	—	649	6	—	829	6	—	2	10	—	826	16	—
2d Clerk - -	70	—	—	70	—	—	63	4	9	203	4	9	10	—	—	193	4	9
3d Clerk - -	60	—	—	10	—	—	114	—	—	184	—	—	10	—	—	174	—	—
4th Clerk - -	50	—	—	10	—	—	124	13	6	184	13	6	—	—	—	184	13	6
5th Clerk - -	70	—	—	—	—	—	100	16	6	170	16	6	3	—	—	167	16	6
6th Clerk - -	50	—	—	10	—	—	74	17	6	134	17	6	—	—	—	134	17	6
7th Clerk - -	50	—	—	10	—	—	54	14	—	114	14	—	—	—	—	114	14	—
8th Clerk - -	50	—	—	10	—	—	80	—	—	140	—	—	—	—	—	140	—	—
9th Clerk - -	50	—	—	5	5	—	42	8	9	97	13	9	—	—	—	97	13	9
10th Clerk - -	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
11th Clerk - -	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
12th Clerk - -	50	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	51	1	—	—	—	—	51	1	—
13th Clerk - -	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6	50	10	6	—	—	—	50	10	6
14th Clerk - -	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6	50	10	6	—	—	—	50	10	6
15th, or Junior Clerk - -	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	6	52	9	6	—	—	—	52	9	6
Petition Clerk - -	50	—	—	20	—	—	45	—	—	115	—	—	—	—	—	115	—	—

The Business of the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts, as described in his Special Duty, is executed under his Inspection by a Chief and Four other Clerks.

Appendix, N^o 66,
67, 68, 69, 70.

The particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix.

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each of the said Clerks in the Year 1784, were as follows:

COMPTROLLER of the TREASURER's ACCOUNTS OFFICE.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk - -	100	—	—	60	10	—	369	9	—	529	19	—	22	10	—	507	9	—
2d Clerk - -	70	—	—	55	10	—	63	15	—	189	5	—	1	15	—	187	10	—
3d Clerk - -	60	—	—	22	—	—	35	3	—	117	3	—	1	10	—	115	13	—
4th Clerk - -	50	—	—	17	—	—	28	2	6	95	2	6	—	—	—	95	2	6
5th Clerk - -	50	—	—	7	—	—	23	11	—	80	11	—	—	—	—	80	11	—

The Business of the Ticket Office, as before described, is executed under the Inspection of the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts, by a Chief and Nineteen other Clerks.

Appendix, N^o 71,
72, 73, 74, 75, 76,
77, 78, 79, 80, 81,
82, 83, 84, 85, 86,
87.

The particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix.

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each of the said Clerks, in the Year 1784, were as follows:

TICKET

TICKET OFFICE.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk	300	—	—	—	—	—	416	19	6	716	19	6	20	—	—	696	19	6
2d Clerk	200	—	—	—	—	—	215	1	6	415	1	6	15	—	—	400	1	6
3d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	457	2	6	507	2	6	—	—	—	507	2	6
4th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	22	8	3	201	—	3	—	—	—	201	—	3
5th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	62	6	6	112	6	6	—	—	—	112	6	6
6th Clerk	50	—	—	109	18	—	125	16	—	285	14	—	—	—	—	285	14	—
7th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	8	1	—	186	3	—	—	—	—	186	3	—
8th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—
9th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—	—	—	—	178	2	—
10th Clerk	50	—	—	112	14	—	80	—	—	242	14	—	—	—	—	242	14	—
11th Clerk	50	—	—	69	13	—	8	—	—	127	13	—	—	—	—	127	13	—
12th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	113	11	—	163	11	—	—	—	—	163	11	—
13th Clerk	50	—	—	128	2	—	1	6	6	179	8	6	—	—	—	179	8	6
14th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	127	10	—	177	10	—	—	—	—	177	10	—
15th Clerk	50	—	—	34	7	6	163	11	—	247	18	6	—	—	—	247	18	6
16th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	85	—	—	135	—	—	—	—	—	135	—	—
17th Clerk	50	—	—	5	15	6	31	5	—	87	—	6	—	—	—	87	—	6
18th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	55	—	—	105	—	—	—	—	—	105	—	—
19th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	21	15	6	71	15	6	—	—	—	71	15	6
20th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	113	15	—	163	15	—	—	—	—	163	15	—

The Business of the Office of the Comptroller of Victualling Accounts, as described in his Special Appendix, N^o 88, Duty, is executed under his Inspection, by a Chief and Two other Clerks. The particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix.

The Salary received by each of the said Clerks in the Year 1784, was as follows.

COMPTROLLER of the Victualling Accounts Office.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	2	10	—	97	10	—
2d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
3d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—

The Business of the Office of Comptroller of Store-keeper's Accounts, as described in his Special Duty, is executed under his Inspection, by a Chief and Eight other Clerks.

The particular Duty and Attendance of each is set forth in the Appendix.

Appendix, N^o 91,
92, 93, 94, 95, 96,
97, 98, 99.

The Salary, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each of the said Clerks, in the Year 1784, were as follows.

COMPTROLLER of Store-keeper's Accounts Office.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk	100	—	—	—	—	—	7	15	—	107	15	—	2	10	—	105	5	—
2d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
3d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
4th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
5th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
6th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
7th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
8th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
9th Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—

The Business of the Slop Office before described, is executed under the joint Inspection of the Comptroller of the Treasurer's Accounts, and Comptroller of the Store-keeper's Accounts, by a Store-keeper, a Chief, and Three other Clerks.

Appendix, No 100, 101, 102, 103.

The Duty and Attendance, Salary and Emoluments, of the Store-keeper, have already been specified. The particular Duty and Attendance of each of the Clerks is set forth in the Appendix.

The Salary, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each of them in the Year 1784, were as follows:

S L O P O F F I C E .

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Chief Clerk	100	—	—	—	—	—	138	8	—	238	8	—	—	—	—	238	8	—
2d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	8	2	100	8	2	—	—	—	100	8	2
3d Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	67	8	6	117	8	6	—	—	—	117	8	6
Junior Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—

Appendix, No 41, 42.

There are Two Clerks allotted to the Extra Commissioner, who are occasionally employed in other Departments of the Office; their Duty and Attendance is set forth in the Appendix.

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each of them in the Year 1784, were as follows:

EXTRA COMMISSIONER'S CLERKS.

Stations.	Salaries.			Allowances.			Fees and Gratuities.			Total.			Deductions.			Net Receipt.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1st Extra Clerk	50	—	—	5	19	—	5	5	—	61	4	—	—	—	—	61	4	—
2d Extra Clerk	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—

Appendix, No 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111.

The inferior Officers employed in this Office, are a Head Messenger, Three Assistants, a Messenger to the Office for Seamen's Wages, and another to the Ticket Office, a Porter, and a House Keeper: Their Duty is implied in their Titles; and is set forth in the Appendix.

COMPTROLLER

The

The Salary, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, received by each, were in the Year 1784, as follows:

MESSENGERS, &c. to the NAVY OFFICE.

Stations.	Salaries.	Allowances.	Fees and Gratuities.	Total.	Deductions.	Net Receipt.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Head Messenger	50 — —	78 6 4	30 — —	158 6 4	—	158 6 4
1st Assistant Messenger	30 — —	77 1 —	10 — —	117 1 —	—	117 1 —
2d Assistant Messenger	20 — —	90 7 3	14 10 —	124 17 3	—	124 17 3
3d Assistant Messenger	20 — —	57 7 —	10 — —	87 7 —	—	87 7 —
Messenger to the Comptroller's Office for Seamen's Wages	20 — —	119 11 6	5 — —	139 11 6	To his Deputy. 76 11 6	63 — —
Messenger to the Ticket Office	20 — —	96 17 3	5 — —	121 17 3	To his Deputy. 60 14 7	61 2 8
Porter	25 — —	38 13 3	1 1 —	64 14 3	To his Predecessor, since dead. 14 — —	50 14 3
		also Livery Cloaths to the Value of £. 12.			To her Servant. 30 — —	
House Keeper	40 — —	40 — —	4 16 6	84 16 6		54 16 6

All the Officers and Clerks in this Office are efficient, and perform their Duty in Person, except Two of the Messengers; namely, those attached to the Comptroller's Office for Seamen's Wages, and the Ticket Office, who execute theirs by Deputy.

The Stationary for this Office is supplied by Contract, and amounted in the Year 1784, including that for the Yards and Slop Office, to Four thousand and Two hundred Sixty-eight Pounds Eleven Shillings One Penny. £. 4,268. 11. 1.

The Contingent Expences of this Office amounted in the same Year, including the Slop Office to the Sum of Eleven thousand One hundred Twenty-one Pounds Ten Shillings and Eight Pence, the Particulars of which are inserted in N° 112 of the Appendix. In the above Sum, however, is included One thousand Eight hundred Fifty-five Pounds Nineteen Shillings Two Pence for making free Foreign Ships fold; Two hundred Twenty-nine Pounds Nine Shillings and Six Pence for Expences on removing to the new Office; and Two hundred Twenty-four Pounds Four Shillings and Four Pence Repairs of the Office; which being casual Expences, and not likely to occur soon again, ought to be deducted from the Annual Amount, which will thereby be reduced to the Sum of Eight thousand Eight hundred Eleven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Eight Pence. £. 8,811. 17. 8.

That the whole Annual Expence of this Office may appear at One View, we have composed and annexed to this Report a Table, shewing the Amount of the Salaries, Allowances, Fees, Gratuities, and Emoluments, received by the Officers and Clerks in this Office, together with the Amount of Stationary and Contingencies for the Year 1784, by which it appears that the Total Amount for that Year was Forty-two thousand One hundred and Eleven Pounds Six Shillings and Nine Pence; of which the Sum of Thirty-two thousand Eight hundred and Ninety Pounds Two Shillings and Two Pence was paid by the Public, and the Sum of Nine thousand Two hundred and Twenty-one Pounds Four Shillings and Seven Pence by Individuals. In this Account, however, the Expence of the Solicitor to the Admiralty and Navy Board is not included. £. 42,111. 6. 9. £. 32,890. 2. 2. £. 9,221. 4. 7.

We had Occasion to mention this Officer in our Third Report upon the Office of the Admiralty, and reserved the particular Account of his Duty and Emoluments for this Place, as he acts for the several Offices of the Admiralty, Treasurer of the Navy, and Commissioners of the Navy. Appendix, N° 113.

This Officer is properly the Assistant to the Counsel for the Affairs of the Admiralty and Navy; as such it is his Duty to assist the Admiralty Counsel in the Prosecution and Defence of all Suits wherein the Admiralty and Navy are concerned; to follow the Directions of the Counsel; to see, retain, and employ such Counsel, Attornies, and Proctors as shall be judged requisite and proper; to enter all Orders and Directions he may receive from the Lords of the Admiralty, or Commissioners of the Navy; to keep a Register of all Causes in the Prosecution or Defence of which he is concerned, of the several Proceedings therein, and final Event thereof; to attend diligently to the Prosecution and Defence of all such Causes and Suits; and to execute all such Orders and Instructions as he shall from Time to Time receive from the Admiralty and Navy Boards.

His

His Attendance on this Business is, in general, Daily; he has a Salary of Four hundred Pounds a Year, reduced by the Shilling and Civil List Duties to Three hundred and Seventy Pounds; he also receives a Moiety of the Profits arising to the Attorney employed by him on the Town Business, which in the Year 1784 amounted to between Two and Three hundred Pounds; he has likewise occasional Advantages upon Cases, Actions, Extents, Bonds of Indemnity, and other Business arising from the Official Situation, which, upon an Average, have produced him about Forty Pounds a Year; he is also occasionally employed by the Commissioners for Sick and Hurt Seamen, his Emoluments from which amount to about Forty Pounds Annually; making his Annual Receipt, by virtue of this Office, about Seven hundred Pounds; besides which, he receives about Two hundred and Fifty Pounds a Year from his Office of Solicitor and Comptroller of the Droits of the Admiralty, as stated in our Third Report.

£. 700.

Such is the State in which we found the Office of the Commissioners of Your Majesty's Navy, and such the Duty, Attendance, Salaries, Fees, Gratuities, Perquisites, and Emoluments of the Officers and Clerks employed therein.

We now proceed, in Obedience to the Act by which we are constituted, to offer such Observations as have occurred to us, and such Plans for Correction and Improvement, as, from a minute and laborious Enquiry, appear proper to be adopted; in the Course of which we have examined the Officers and Clerks belonging to this Office, and also the several Officers and Clerks of Your Majesty's Dock Yards of Deptford, Woolwich, Chatham, Sheerness, Portsmouth, and Plymouth.

A short Historical Sketch of this Office will serve to illustrate the Observations, and the Propriety of such Regulations as we may hereafter propose.

The Records of the Office do not furnish us with any Information further back than July 1660; but we understand that the First Establishment of a Royal Navy Office was in the Reign of King Henry the Eighth, who appointed certain Officers, under the Title of Principal Officers of his Navy, to manage the Civil Branches thereof, under the Lord High Admiral; but those Officers had no positive Instructions for their Guidance in the Execution of their Duty, until the Reign of King Edward the Sixth, when certain Ordinances were issued for the Conduct of the Officers entrusted with the Management of the Marine Affairs; which Ordinances form the Basis of all the future Instructions given for the Conduct of the Officers to whom the Management of the Civil Branch of the Navy has been committed. The Officers at that Time appointed to this Duty were the Vice Admiral of the Fleet, the Master of the Ordnance, the Surveyor of Marine Causes, the Treasurer, the Comptroller, the General Surveyor of the Victualling, the Clerk of the Ships, and the Clerk of the Stores; who were directed to meet Once a Week at the Office on Tower Hill, to consult together for the good Order of the Navy, and to report their Proceedings Once a Month to the High Admiral: Particular Duties were also allotted to each Member.

The Affairs of the Navy appear to have continued under the Management of such Officers until the Time of King James the First, who, in the Sixteenth Year of his Reign, issued a Commission, under the Great Seal to Sir Thomas Smith, and others, to enquire into Frauds and Abuses which had been committed in the Navy, with Power to remedy the same, and to manage, settle, and put the Affairs of the Navy into a right Course.

This Commission was determined upon the Demise of King James the First, in 1625, when his Successor, King Charles the First, issued a new Commission to the same Persons: By this Commission the Offices of the Comptroller and Surveyor were suspended during its Continuance; and the same continued in Force until the Year 1628, when it was made void by a new Commission, restoring the Management of the Affairs of the Navy to the ancient Principal Officers established in the Reign of King Edward the Sixth; but between this Time and the breaking out of the Civil War several Commissions appear to have been issued for regulating and settling the Affairs of the Navy, during the Continuance of which the Functions of the original Principal Officers were always suspended.

Upon the Restoration of King Charles the Second, his Majesty constituted a Navy Board by Commission under the Great Seal, consisting of the Treasurer, Comptroller, Surveyor, and Clerk of the Navy, who were styled Principal Officers; to whom, on the 4th July 1660, Three Commissioners were added, to assist the said Principal Officers in the Management of the Affairs of the Navy.

In January 1661 the Duke of York, then Lord High Admiral, established certain Instructions now in Use for the Conduct of the Four Principal Officers; the other Three, being Commissioners at large, had no particular Line of Duty allotted to them until the Year 1666, when One of them was directed to take upon him so much of the Comptroller's Duty as related to the Examination and Controul of the Treasurer's Accounts; another that Part which related to the Victualling Accounts; and in the Year 1671 the Third Commissioner had that Part of the Comptroller's Duty which related to the Examination and Controul of the Store Keeper's Accounts assigned to him; which, with the Addition of One Commissioner at large, is the present Arrangement of the Navy Board.

Thus it appears that the Constitution of this Board, and the relative Duty of its Members, have undergone very little Alteration for upwards of a Century (except that the Number of Commissioners has occasionally varied from Seven to Ten) notwithstanding the great Increase of the Navy, and that the

the Duty then prescribed the Principal Officers and Commissioners remains nearly the same at this Day; the Consequence of which is, that several Parts of the Personal Services allotted to the Commissioners are now unavoidably left to Clerks; amongst others, the strict Investigation and Examination of Accounts, which, from the Extension of the Service, are not only multiplied in Number, but immensely in Amount; the voluminous and extended Correspondence, together with the Direction of the Whole, and the Execution of a Part, occupying the whole Time of the Principals.

It appears, therefore, expedient to alter, in some Measure, the present Constitution of the Board, and to form a System better adapted to the Extension of the Business.

The Variety and Importance of the Affairs under the Management of this Board require, in our Opinion, a general superintending and directing Power to be lodged somewhere for the more regular and better conducting the Whole; this Power cannot be more properly placed than in the Comptroller, who, by Priority of his Place, is at present instructed to conduct the Business, and to lead his Fellow Officers. It should be his Duty to arrange the Whole of the Business, and, for the Purposes of Accuracy and Dispatch, to divide it amongst the several Members; to controul the Expence in every Branch of the Office and its Dependencies; visit the Dock Yards; attend the Treasury, Admiralty, and Your Majesty's Ministers; receive their Confidential Orders; see to the immediate and due Execution thereof; and be responsible for the Whole.

In order to enable the Comptroller to perform this essential Duty and Trust, he ought to be relieved from any other specific Line of Duty, and his Place supplied by a Deputy Comptroller, who should also be a Sea Officer, have Rank at the Board next to the Comptroller, and in his necessary Absence conduct the Business at the Board, and be responsible for the same.

By the present Constitution of the Navy Board, the Business is divided into Departments, over which a Commissioner is supposed to superintend; but it appears that the Business of each Department is in Fact conducted by the Chief Clerk thereof, the Attendance at the Board occupying in general the whole Time of the Commissioners; and as all Business is dispatched at One Board, where each Commissioner has a Voice, much Embarrassment and Delay must necessarily occur, and many important Accounts passed with too slight an Examination.

To remedy these and many other Inconveniencies, not necessary to be mentioned, we are of Opinion that instead of the Commissioners presiding over distinct and separate Departments, Committees should be formed, amongst whom the Business should be so divided as to have competent Officers of each Branch, with Time and Opportunity to examine, digest, and conduct the Part allotted to each Committee, subject however ultimately to the Opinion of the Board at large.

For this Purpose it will be necessary to increase the Number of Commissioners, an Expence which will be fully repaid by the Benefit accruing therefrom to this important Service, and the Savings which will be produced by their Labours; the Number of Seven is too few, it has been found necessary very lately, and since our Examination of the Office, to add very properly another Sea Commissioner, which makes the present Number Eight, the Standing Peace Establishment, One of the Surveyors having died pending our Enquiry, and no other appointed: In Time of War the Number has generally been Ten, which we think necessary for properly conducting this very essential Business, as well in Peace as in War; and we conceive it will be for the Benefit of the Public to establish a Constitution for this Office, not calculated solely for Peace, but for every Purpose of the most active War.

We therefore propose that there should be Ten Commissioners resident in London, for conducting the Business of the Navy Board.

The First Commissioner, a Sea Officer, to be Comptroller, to preside at the Board, and conduct the general Business thereof, &c. as before stated.

2d Commissioner, a Sea Officer, and Deputy Comptroller.

3d Commissioner, a Shipwright Officer.

4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th Commissioners, Gentlemen intelligent in the Civil Department of the Business, or in Accounts.

8th, 9th, and 10th Commissioners, Sea Officers.

This Board should be divided into Three Committees; namely, a Committee of Correspondence, a Committee of Accounts, and a Committee of Stores: The Comptroller to belong to and preside at every Committee.

The Committee of Correspondence to consist of the Deputy Comptroller, the Surveyor, and One other Commissioner.

The Committee of Accounts to consist of One Sea Officer, and Two other Commissioners.

The Committee for Stores to consist of Two Sea Officers, and One other Commissioner.

The Committee of Correspondence to conduct the Correspondence of the Board.

The Committee of Accounts to superintend, strictly examine, and pass all Accounts; subject however to the Approbation of the Board at large.

The Committee for Stores to consider of the proper Quantities of Stores necessary to be provided for the Service in general; to direct the Distribution thereof; and to take Cognizance of the Receipt, Issue, Remains, and Returns of Stores of every Kind whatsoever.

When Ships or Vessels are to be purchased or hired for the Service, the Surveyor and Sea Commissioners to determine, from Reports made to them by the proper Officers, and from the Personal Examination

Examination if they shall judge necessary, whether the Vessels are fit, and to deliver their Opinion in Writing to the Board, where all Contracts of every Kind whatever should be made, those for Secret Services only excepted, which are to be entrusted to the Comptroller, who should be authorised to execute all such Services, under the Authority of the First Lord of the Treasury, or the First Lord of the Admiralty, signified by themselves or their respective Secretaries. When the Service has been performed, and the Time is fit, the Comptroller ought to lay his Orders and his Proceedings thereon before the Board for their Approbation; if a Majority disapprove any Part of his Conduct, the Board to submit the Whole, with the Reasons for disapproving, to the Superior Board from whence the Orders originated, and whose Decision thereon should be final.

When the Voices shall be equal upon a Question in any of the Committees, the Whole of the Business to which it relates should be laid before the Board for their Determination; and when the Voices at the Board shall be equal, the Comptroller to have in such Case only, a Second Vote. Each Committee should report upon their Proceedings to, and the Whole to be finally passed by, the Board; the Committee however should have Power to dispatch the current Business appertaining to each, for which they must be respectively responsible to the Board; but no Accounts to be finally passed without the Concurrence of the Board, and the Signature of the Comptroller or Deputy Comptroller, annexed thereto.

These Arrangements will require a Chief Officer to be attached to each of the Committees, with such other Assistance as may be found necessary.

The Separation of the Office of Secretary from that of the Clerk of the Acts, is in our Opinion now become absolutely necessary, the Office of Assistant to the Clerk of the Acts should be converted into that of Secretary, who should attend the Board when sitting, take Minutes, see to the Execution of the Board's Orders, carry on the Correspondence, take Care of the Board's Papers, and that the Whole be duly registered, for all which he should be responsible, as well as for the Secrecy therein. This Officer, or his Assistant, should constantly attend the Committee of Correspondence, and act as Secretary thereto.

The Chief Officer attached to the Committee of Accounts shall be styled Accountant General, and the one attached to the Committee for Stores, Accountant for Stores; each to act as Secretary to the Committee to which they are respectively attached.

The Alteration proposed by the foregoing Arrangement is the Substitution of Committees in lieu of the Superintendence of the Commissioners individually over different Departments; it is not intended to disturb in other Respects the present Form of such Departments, those of the Clerk of the Acts and of the Examiner of the Victualling Accounts excepted; the First falls naturally into the Office of Secretary, and the other we propose to annex to that for the Examination of the Treasurer's Accounts.

Having thus given our Opinion upon the Constitution of this Board, we proceed to state the proper Compensation for the Services required from its Members.

It has already been stated that the Official Income of the Commissioners, Officers, and Clerks in this Office arises from a Variety of Receipts in Salary, Allowances, Fees, Gratuities, Perquisites, and Emoluments, a Mode of Compensation we have objected to in all our former Reports, and must continue to disapprove. In Place of which we recommend that there should be substituted and annexed to each Office One certain Salary, paid Quarterly, free from all Deductions: This Salary ought to be adequate to the Duty required and Trust reposed, and estimated according to the various Qualifications and Circumstances necessary for the Execution, which together form the Title to Reward.

Upon these Principles we shall endeavour to the best of our Judgment to allot to each Officer a full and competent Recompence for the Service required of him; which we have already said should be free from all Taxes and Deductions whatever, for we cannot approve the Diminution of the due Reward of Industry by Duties and Taxes, which could only be originally intended to affect Sinecure Places, not the actual Compensation for efficient and laborious Services. This Subject, however, we shall have Occasion to discuss at large in a further Report on the Naval Department; we only mention it here to shew that we have had it in View throughout all the various Regulations we have proposed in this and our former Reports.

£. 1,500.

The Comptroller, being First in Rank and in Responsibility, should have a Salary of Fifteen hundred Pounds *per Annum*, and be reimbursed the Expence actually incurred by him on visiting the Dock Yards; those at Deptford and Woolwich excepted. The Deputy Comptroller should have a Salary of One thousand Pounds *per Annum*; the other Eight Commissioners should have Salaries of Eight hundred Pounds a Year each, and their Expences paid when employed on visiting or paying the Yards and Ships there; but no Allowance for attending Payments, or any other Duty in Town.

£. 1,000.

£. 800.

The Comptroller, Deputy Comptroller, and Surveyor, ought to have Houses provided for them contiguous to the Office.

£. 1,000.

The Secretary, on Account of the unremitting Attention required and Confidence reposed, should have a Salary of One thousand Pounds a Year, and reside in the Office, where Coals and Candle for his Use should be allowed him.

Official Houses, unless where constant Residence is required, or the Nature of the Service makes the Attendance of certain Officers necessary at all Hours for the Dispatch of urgent Business, are in our

Opinion improper, and liable to Abuse; of this Description also is the Allowance of Coals and Candles, which ought never to be permitted to any Person not actually residing in the Office.

The Practice of receiving Premiums on the Appointment of Clerks, tho' sanctioned by long Usage, is unbecoming, highly improper, prejudicial to the Public Service, and ought to be totally abolished: The Clerks in the various Departments should succeed to Vacancies in superior Seats, according to Seniority, unless upon due Examination they are found not qualified, in which Case the next in Rotation in the Branch properly qualified should succeed; this will cause an Emulation, and be a Spur to Industry and Ability. It is fit, however, that the Commissioners should continue to have the Choice of their own Instruments; upon a Vacancy therefore the Commissioners should have in Rotation the Nomination of the Junior Clerk, subject to the Approbation and Appointment of the Board, but no Admission ought to be made to the Establishment without the Consent and Approbation of the Admiralty Board.

The Number of Clerks required for executing the Business of the Secretary's Office, we judge may be about Fourteen; those now employed in the Clerk of the Act's Office are of course the Persons proper for this Situation: Their Salaries ought to be as follows:

Chief Clerk, who must act as Deputy Secretary, and be assistant to the Principal in all Matters. - - - - - £. 600 per Annum.

2d Clerk - - - - - 300

3d D^o - - - - - 200

4th and 5th D^o, each - - - - - 150

6th and 7th D^o, each - - - - - 120

8th and 9th D^o, each - - - - - 100

10th and 11th D^o, each - - - - - 80

12th, 13th, and 14th D^o, each - - - - - 70

All to rise in Rotation, if qualified.

Librarian, Receiver of Fees, and Paymaster of Contingencies to be stationary - - - - - £. 300 per Annum.

Clerk of the Petitions, D^o - - - - - 120

The above Salaries to be paid Quarterly, clear of all Deductions, and to be in lieu of all Fees, Gratuities, Allowances, and Perquisites whatever.

The Number of Clerks in the Office for Bills and Accounts may we think be reduced to Fifteen; their Salaries to be as follows:

Head Clerk, who is to be Accountant General, and act as Secretary to the Committee of Accounts - - - - - £. 800 per Annum.

2d Ditto - - - - - 400

3d D^o - - - - - 250

4th D^o - - - - - 200

5th D^o - - - - - 150

6th D^o - - - - - 130

7th D^o - - - - - 120

8th D^o - - - - - 100

9th and 10th D^o, each - - - - - 90

11th and 12th D^o, each - - - - - 80

13th, 14th, and 15th D^o, each - - - - - 70

By the present Arrangement in this Office, the Third Clerk has the Charge of the Foreign Accounts, and Four Clerks are employed under him for that Service; we think Three sufficient, under the Direction of the Second or Third Clerk, as the Comptroller shall think fit.

The Number of Clerks in the Office for Seamen's Wages may, when the Arrears of the Treasurer's Accounts are brought up, be reduced to Ten; their Salaries to be as follows:

Chief Clerk - - - - - £. 500 per Annum.

2d D^o - - - - - 300

3d, 4th, and 5th D^o, each - - - - - 150

6th and 7th D^o, each - - - - - 120

8th Clerk - - - - - 90

9th Clerk - - - - - 80

10th Clerk - - - - - 70

In this Distribution of Salaries, it is intended that the 3d, 4th, and 5th Clerks, should be those employed for attending Payments at Portsmouth, Plymouth, Chatham, and Sheerness; the 6th and 7th at the

the Pay Office in London, at Deptford, and Woolwich, and assist the remaining Three in the general Business of the Office.

The Salary of the First Assistant to the Surveyor should be - £. 350 per Annum.
Of the Second Assistant - 250

Which is to be in lieu of House Rent, and all other Perquisites; the First Assistant to be allowed Fifteen Shillings a Day when travelling, and the Second Ten Shillings, with the Expence actually incurred for Horse or Chaise Hire.

The Number of Clerks at present attached to the Surveyor's Department may be considerably reduced, as a great Part of the Business will be transferred by the proposed Arrangement to the Department for Stores, to which the present Chief Clerk, with Four others, should also be transferred: As we conceive Three, or at most, Four Clerks, will be sufficient to execute the Business remaining in the Surveyor's Office; their Salaries to be as follows:

1st Clerk	-	-	-	-	-	£. 200
2d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	150
3d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	100
4th D ^o , if found necessary	-	-	-	-	-	70

The Office for Examination of the Treasurer's Accounts having now added to it that of the Treasurer's Victualling Accounts, will probably require Six Clerks; their Salaries to be as follows:

Chief Clerk	-	-	-	-	-	£. 500
2d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	250
3d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	150
4th D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	100
5th D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	90
6th D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	80

The Number of Clerks employed in the Ticket Office, tho' considerable, cannot be reduced under Eighteen, on Account of the Necessity of having always a sufficient Number of Persons properly qualified to execute the Duties of this important Office; and although in Time of Peace a less Number will be sufficient, yet the retaining them may be necessary, and they may be employed to assist occasionally in other Branches of the Office, as the Comptroller shall think fit.

Their Salaries to be as follows:

Chief Clerk	-	-	-	-	-	£. 500
2d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	300
3d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	200
4th D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	200
5th, 6th, and 7th D ^o , each	-	-	-	-	-	150
8th and 9th D ^o , each	-	-	-	-	-	120
10th D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	100
11th and 12th D ^o , each	-	-	-	-	-	90
13th, 14th, and 15th D ^o , each	-	-	-	-	-	80
16th, 17th, and 18th D ^o , each	-	-	-	-	-	70

By the above Arrangement, it is intended that the 2d, 3d, and 4th Clerks should be employed in such Parts of the Business in the Office in London as requires most Ability and Integrity; the 5th, 6th, and 7th in attending the Payments at Portsmouth, Plymouth, Chatham, and Sheerness; the 8th and 9th the Payments in London, Deptford, and Woolwich, and with the Remainder to assist in the current Business of the Office, and afford Aid to such other Branches of the Office in general as may occasionally require it.

The Number of Clerks in the Office for examining the Store Keeper's Accounts may be reduced to Seven; their Salaries as follows:

Chief Clerk	-	-	-	-	-	£. 120
The other Clerks each	-	-	-	-	-	70

The Number of Officers and Clerks necessary for the Office of Stores and Slops, may probably be as follows:

Chief Clerk and Accountant for Stores, who is to act as Secretary to the Committee for Stores	-	-	-	-	-	£. 700
2d Clerk	-	-	-	-	-	300
3d D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	150
4th D ^o	-	-	-	-	-	100

If more are necessary, each	70
Storekeeper and Accountant for Slops, and in lieu of House Rent,	
Coals, and Candles	35c
Ledger Keeper under him	150
A Clerk, at	90
Another, at	70

This Officer, being in an Office of Trust, and responsible for the Stores under his Care, should have the Nomination of his own Instruments, subject to the Approbation of the Board.

The Clerks at present employed in the Office for examining the Treasurer's Victualling Accounts may be distributed amongst such other Branches as the Comptroller shall think fit; the First Clerk being of course the additional one to the Office for examining the Treasurer's Accounts.

The Salary of the Head Messenger to the Board should be	£. 100 — —
and he should reside in the Office.	
His Assistant	70 — —
The Four other Messengers, each	52 10 —
The Porter, to reside in the Office	40 — —
The House-keeper, for herself and Servants	80 — —

The Payment of the Contingent Expences of the Office to be transferred from the Head Messenger to an Officer who shall be mentioned hereafter; and the Salaries allotted to his Assistant, and the other Four, to be a full Compensation for their Duty; no Errand Money should be allowed, unless when they are sent to a certain Distance from Town.

Here we must observe, that the present Practice of indulging all the Clerks in this Office with having the Postage of their Letters to and from the Office paid, to the Extent of One Shilling per Week, besides those on the Public Service, is improper, and ought to be discontinued. The Postage of Letters on the Public Service only should be paid; which Letters ought to be produced to the Secretary, and his Initials thereon should be the Authority to the Paymaster of Contingencies for reimbursing the Postage.

In determining the Number of Clerks requisite for executing the Duties of the respective Offices, we have necessarily reckoned upon due Attendance, without which no Judgment could be formed. This Attendance ought to be Daily, from Ten o'Clock in the Morning until Four in the Afternoon, and should be strictly enforced, under Penalties in case of Failure.

The Chief Clerks ought all to be in their Seats by the Hour of Ten; and if any of the Inferiors are later, a List of the Defaulters should be laid before the Board Once a Week, that the Commissioners may pass such Sentence on Delinquents as they may think fit; and we would recommend that the Penalty should be at the Rate of Five Shillings a Day, when absent without Leave, for every Hundred Pounds a Year Salary, and so in Proportion; and that the Money arising therefrom should be distributed, at the Pleasure of the Board, in Rewards to those who are most diligent and regular in their Attendance. We must also recommend, that the Comptroller, or Deputy Comptroller, do occasionally visit the several Offices by the Hour of Ten in the Morning, to see that the Regulation is duly complied with; the present relaxed State of Attendance makes this Measure absolutely necessary.

We have had Occasion, in our former Reports, to remark the bad Consequences of permitting Public Officers to act as the Agents of Individuals; no where is this Practice likely to be allowed with greater Abuse than in this Office; Instances are not wanting of material Detriment thereby to the Public and to Individuals: When we find Gentlemen holding the humble Situation of Clerks at Fifty Pounds a Year, and receiving by their Agencies from Five to Six hundred Pounds a Year, it is not uncharitable to suppose that they submit to the former as instrumental to the latter. We are therefore decidedly of Opinion, that this Practice should be prohibited under severe Penalties, as also that of being interested in any Vessel hired for the Public Service, or in any Stores or Provisions purchased or sold for the Use of the Public. To this End, we recommend that every Officer and Clerk in this Office should take and subscribe an Oath of Fidelity, and enter into a Bond to Thrice the Amount of his Annual Salary, for the faithful Performance of his Duty, and that he will not receive directly or indirectly any Fee, Gratuity, Perquisite, or Emolument whatever, other than his established Salary; that he will not act as Agent to any Person whatever having Concern with Government; or be interested in any Stores, Wares, Merchandize, or Provisions, purchased or supplied for the Use of the Navy, or in any Ship or Vessel employed in the Service; or give Notice to any Person whatever, unless called upon by lawful Authority, of any Sum or Sums of Money remaining unpaid on Ships Books, or otherwise: Upon Proof of Default, besides incurring the Penalty of the Bond, the Offender should be dismissed from his Office, and rendered incapable of serving Your Majesty in any Civil Office whatever; and we also are of Opinion, that the like Penalty of Dismissal and Incapacity should attach on all those who may hereafter take or receive any Premium or Consideration whatever for the Appointment of any Clerk or other Officer in Your Majesty's Civil Service.

As a proper Encouragement for Officers to demean themselves faithfully, we are of Opinion that when, from Age or Infirmities, they are obliged to retire from their Situations, an Annuity should

be granted them, not exceeding Half the Amount of their Annual Salaries; but that no Superannuation should be allowed, unless from absolute Incapability, and the Rate determined by the Station in which the Officer has last served for Twelve Months.

We have said that Public Officers ought to receive a full Compensation for their Services from the Public; the Salaries therefore to the efficient Officers, and the Annuities to those superannuated, should be included Yearly in the Ordinary of the Navy.

Notwithstanding this Regulation apparently throws upon the Public the whole Expence of this Office, which at present is in Part paid by Individuals, yet, in Fact, the Public will not contribute more than it now does to such Expence, for all Fees and Gratuities ultimately fall upon the Public; the Contractor calculates upon them when he offers his Terms; the Merchant adds them to the Price of his Commodity; and in the Manner at present paid and received they are very liable to Abuse; they may be a Reward for Civility, Favour, or extra Service; they may also be the Purchase of undue Preference, Expedition, and sometimes Procrastination.

It is not however our Intention that the Public should be altogether deprived of the Contribution of Individuals, but that the Mode of contributing should be altered, and the Contract between the Public Officer and the Contractor removed.

Certain Fees upon Buiiness done, and Instruments issuing from this Office, should, in our Opinion, continue to be paid, according to a Table hereunto annexed; but such Fees ought to be received by a Person appointed for that Purpose, unconnected with any Department in the Office, who should give Security in the Sum of £. 2,000, and likewise pay all the Contingent Expences of the Office.

This Office may very properly be attached to that of Librarian, and executed by the same Person, with the Assistance of a Clerk, should the Comptroller think it necessary.

All such Fees to be paid previous to any Instrument being issued; the Chief Clerk in every Office where the Instruments are made out, to mark thereon the Amount of the Fees payable, and keep a Check on the Receiver, by charging him with such Fee in an Account which is to be Weekly transmitted to the Accountant General; to whom also the said Receiver should render an Account Weekly of his Receipts and Payments, with the Vouchers for the latter; the Receipts to be checked by the separate Accounts of the respective Chief Clerks, and when found to agree, the Weekly Amount should be charged upon the Receiver, in an Account to be raised for that Purpose, in which he is to have Credit for his authorized and vouched Disbursements; which Account ought to be balanced Once a Quarter, and presented by the Accountant General to the Committee of Accounts, who having examined and approved the same, should direct so much of the Balance remaining in the Receiver's Hands as they shall think fit to be paid to the Treasurer of the Navy. At the End of every Year the Receiver should make out a General Account, and make Oath thereto before a Baron of the Court of Exchequer, which being examined and approved by the Navy Board, should be incorporated in the Annual Account of the Treasurer.

In order to shew the Rate at which all Fees and Gratuities are at present paid for Business done, and Instruments issued from this Office, we have collected the same from the different Returns delivered to us upon Oath, and subjoined the Account thereof in the Appendix.

Before we quit this Subject, it may be proper to observe, that in our following Report on Your Majesty's Dock Yards, we shall have Occasion to treat more at large of the Poundage Rate proposed in the Table N^o 114. At present we shall only remark, that it is our Intention to recommend bringing the Grand Receipt of Fees to the Navy Office by a certain Poundage Rate on the Amount of all Bills there issued for Payment of Services performed, and Stores supplied.

We trust it will appear that the Amount of this moderate Rate will be more than sufficient to defray the Contingent Expences and Stationary, both of the Navy Office and Dock Yards; should it however fall short in Years of Peace, the Excess in Time of War will fully compensate any such Deficiency.

The following Comparative Statement of the present and proposed Establishment of this Office, will shew the Difference in the Expence to the Public.

PRESENT

PRESENT ESTABLISHMENT.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount of the Salaries, Allowances, Fees, and Gratuities, per Table N ^o 113. - -	26,721	—	—
Add—The Expence of One Commissioner since appointed - -	880	—	—
The Annual Expence of Coals and Candles allowed the Eight Commissioners - -	720	—	—
The Allowance of Coals and Candles to other Officers - -	70	—	—
The Allowance for attending Payments in Town, &c. - -	220	—	—
The Allowance of Postages to the Clerks - - - -	250	—	—
The Comptroller's Half Pay - -	180	—	—
	£. 29,041	—	—
Deduct—The Amount of Fees and Gratuities paid by Individuals - - - -	9,221	—	—
Remains, paid ostensibly by the Public - - - -	19,820	—	—
Difference - - - -	5,000	—	—
	£. 24,820	—	—

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount of the Salaries to the Ten Commissioners and Secretary - - - -	9,900	—	—
Amount of Salaries in the Secretary's Office - -	2,630	—	—
Ditto in the Office for Bills and Accounts - - - -	2,700	—	—
Ditto in the Office for Seamen's Wages - - - -	1,730	—	—
Ditto in the Surveyor's Office - -	1,120	—	—
Ditto in the Office for examining Treasurer's Accounts - -	1,170	—	—
Ditto in the Ticket Office - -	2,620	—	—
Ditto in the Office for examining the Store Keeper's Accounts - -	540	—	—
Ditto in the Office for Stores - -	1,910	—	—
Ditto to Messengers, &c. - -	500	—	—

£. 24,820 — —

The Stationary and Contingencies we have not included in either Statement, although a Saving will be produced, and that not inconsiderable, by the Attention of the Comptroller and Committee of Accompts; neither have we noticed the Premiums received by the Commissioners on the Appointment of Clerks, which may be presumed to fall ultimately on the Public by extra Allowances and Indulgencies.

It appears therefore that, after paying to every Officer a full Compensation for the Duty required of him, the Annual Difference of Expence to the Public will be only Five thousand Pounds, an inconsiderable Sum compared with the Advantage which will be obtained, particularly that of removing the Contract between the Public Officer and the Contractor; but this Sum too will be compensated by the Fees received for the Use of the Public.

£. 5000.

We have recommended that every Officer and Clerk in this Office ought to enter into an Engagement not to disclose to any Person whatever, unless called upon by lawful Authority, any Sum or Sums of Money remaining unpaid on Ships Books, or otherwise: This Practice will in some Measure be remedied by prohibiting the Officers from being Agents; but it is further necessary, that the Muster Books should not be subject to the Inspection of any Person or Persons, except those whose Official Duty it is to examine them; by the easy Access which every Clerk or even Messenger belonging to the Office has had to them, much Prejudice has arisen to the Public, and to Individuals; Demands have often been made from such Information by Persons not entitled, who under fabricated Authorities have received another's Due. The Chief Clerk of the Ticket Office should take special Care of the Muster Books, lock them up every Night after Office Hours, and never suffer them to be inspected but in his Presence, or in that of some Person in whom he can confide: We are of Opinion, that all Money appearing due on Ships Books, and unclaimed for Fourteen Years after the Ship is paid off, should be deemed forfeited, and no longer continue as Part of the Debt of the Navy.

In the Course of this Enquiry it has appeared that much Loss has accrued to the Public, and Inconvenience to Individuals, by the irregular Transmission of the Muster Books: If a Ship is lost or taken with Ten or Twelve Months Muster Books due, neither the Wages of the Officers and Seamen, nor the Amount of the Slops, &c. with which they have been furnished, can be ascertained; to remedy this, we would recommend that the Captains and Commanders of Your Majesty's Ships and Vessels should be directed to deliver their Muster Books Monthly, when in Port, to the Clerk of the Cheque of the Yards at Home, and to the Naval Officers, Governors, Consuls, or Agents Abroad, to be forwarded to the Navy Office; when not in Port to deliver them from Time to Time to the Secretary of the Commander in Chief, retaining Copies on Board of all Muster Books delivered at Sea or Abroad.

Instances have occurred of Neglect in taking the proper Security from Officers appointed to Offices of Trust; we therefore recommend, that previous to any such Appointment the Secretary should certify to the Board that the requisite Security has been given, and the Bond lodged with him; and that upon the Death, Resignation, or Removal of any Officer who has given Security, the Secretary or Accountant General should move the Board to call upon the Executors and Sureties of such Officer to render an Account, and that the same should be prosecuted and adjusted without Delay; it will also tend much to the Collection of Outstanding Balances, was the Treasurer of the Navy to give Notice to the Navy Board, at the End of every Three Months, of those who have failed to pay into his Hands the Sums which they ought to have done conformable to the Notification given him by the Board, and that it should be the Duty of the Chief Clerk in the Office for examining the Treasurer's Accounts also to represent the same to the Board, to the End that a Second Notice be given to the Parties, who not complying therewith within Three Months from the Date of such Second Notice, the Solicitor should be directed to proceed against them in the most summary Manner.

Having mentioned this Officer, the Solicitor, we think it incumbent on us to represent how much the Public are interested that he should be a Gentleman of Ability in his Profession, attentive and diligent; we are therefore of Opinion that no Person ought to be appointed to the Office, unless approved by Your Majesty's Attorney General; and that previous to the Payment of his Bills, which we have found to be considerable in Amount, an Authority for the Service should be produced from the Office or Officer who directed it.

The Accounts of all Officers employed in Foreign Service ought to be examined, as soon as possible after received, and always before the Receipt of them is acknowledged, in order to check improper Expenditures, which by not being noticed, the Officers may conceive are approved, and continue them; the Authority of the Officer commanding on the Station ought to be obtained for all Stores purchased, without which Proof of the same being bought at the Market Price, and a Receipt from the Party of whom bought, no Article should be allowed.

The numerous List of Insupers or Sub-Accountants, whose Accounts are open and depending, should be duly attended to by the Chief Clerk for examining the Treasurer's Accounts, who should lay a State thereof every Three Months before the Committee of Accounts, reporting the Alterations since the last State, and how far the Accountants have complied with the Directions of the Board.

By a Return to our Precept to the Navy Board, "for an Account of the several Sums due to the Public, and outstanding for old Naval Stores sold, and Naval Stores supplied to Merchant Ships, between the First of January 1750 and the 31st of December 1786," it appears that the Sum of Fourteen thousand Three hundred Seventeen Pounds Eighteen Shillings and Two Pence was then due and unpaid; although some of the Board's Orders for Payment were dated as far back as May 1750, such Orders should be followed up as before mentioned, and Payment enforced. But this is a trifling Sum, compared with the Amount of the Insuper Accounts still open and depending, Attention to which cannot be too strongly recommended.

The Practice of purchasing or hiring Ships and Vessels, when required for the Public Service, by different Boards, has been found by Experience very inconvenient and detrimental; the Performance of this Service altogether by the Navy Board would in our Opinion be for the Public Benefit, the professional Knowledge of the Members at that Board would prevent Purchase or Hire of improper Vessels; and the Competition being removed, the Tonnage wanted would be obtained at a fair and reasonable Rate; whereas, by several Boards bidding against each other, the Price will be raised, and Vessels unfit for the Service frequently engaged: The Navy Board might make the Agreement, and the Contract be drawn pursuant thereto, between the Owner and the Department for which the Ship is wanted.

Besides the Regulations we have submitted, there are others equally necessary, which, as they apply to this Department in common with the Dock Yards, we propose to offer in our next Report on the Subject of Your Majesty's Dock Yards.

Office of Enquiry,
the 14th February 1788.

JOHN DICK, (L. S.)
WM MOLLESON, (L. S.)
F. BARING, (L. S.)